

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 and 24-34 are presented for further examination. Claims 1, 2, 4-18, 24-26, 28, and 29 have been amended. Claims 30-34 are new.

In the Office Action mailed September 26, 2011, the Examiner maintained the rejection of claims 1-18 and 24-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over previously-cited Bowman (U.S. Patent No. 5,999,623) in view of previously cited Johnson (U.S. Patent No. 7,143,249). Remarks accompanying the rejection state that Applicants' arguments pertain to only an alternative embodiment of Bowman and that Bowman's main embodiment in combination with Johnson meets the elements of the claims.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim Rejections

Applicants have amended the claims to provide greater clarity and to correct minor discrepancies therein. In addition, new claims 30 – 34, all of which depend from claim 18, have been added. These claims correspond to dependent claims 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7 respectively. No new matter has been added.

During a telephone conference with the Examiner that was initiated by the undersigned on October 20, 2011, it was agreed that neither Bowman nor Johnson, taken alone or in any combination, teach or suggest the first decryption circuit. (See Applicant-initiated Interview Summary mailed October 25, 2011.) Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all of the claims remaining in the application. In the event the Examiner disagrees or finds minor informalities that can be resolved by telephone conference, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone at (206) 622-4900 in order to expeditiously resolve prosecution of these claims. Consequently early and favorable action allowing these claims and passing this case to issuance is respectfully solicited.

Application No. 10/575,650
Reply to Office Action dated September 26, 2011

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,
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